

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-12.

Please add the following new claims 13-27. A list of pending claims follows.

Pending Claims

1-12: (Cancelled)

13. (New) A method of occluding a uterine artery of a female patient which includes
- a. providing a uterine artery occlusion device which has an elongated cannula with proximal and distal ends, at least first and second lumens extending within the elongated cannula, a first extendable member having a first distal end disposed within the first inner lumen, a second extendable member having a second distal end disposed within the second inner lumen, a blood flow sensor at the distal end of the cannula to facilitate location of the patient's uterine artery and the monitoring of blood flow therethrough;
 - b. introducing the occlusion device with the patient's vaginal canal and advancing the device therein until the distal end of the cannula is adjacent to the patient's vaginal fornix;
 - c. locating the patient's uterine artery by the blood flow sensor;
 - d. extending the first extendable member onto a first location of the patient's vaginal fornix to invaginate the wall thereof at the first

- location on a first side of the located uterine artery with the first distal end distal to the located artery; and
- e. extending the second extendable member onto a second location of the patient's vaginal fornix to invaginate the wall thereof at the second location on a second side of the located uterine artery with the second distal end distal to the located artery;
 - f. interpenetrating a length of ligation material through the invaginated walls of the patient's vaginal fornix at the first and second locations from the first and second distal ends of the first and second extendable members distal to uterine artery to occlude the uterine artery.

14. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein the blood flow sensor used to locate the uterine artery is a Doppler ultrasound based sensor.

15. (New) The method of Claim 13, wherein said first extendable member includes a detachable element to which said ligation material is attached, and wherein the detachable element is grabbed by portions of the second extendable member.

16. (New) The method of Claim 13, wherein the second extendable member is retracted in a proximal direction; and wherein the detachable element is released from the first extendable member.

17. (New) The method of Claim 13, wherein the first extendable member includes a tissue penetrating element to which said ligation material is attached, and wherein the tissue bundle is pierced by the tissue penetrating element.

18. (New) The method of Claim 17, wherein the tissue penetrating element includes a detachable element to which said ligation material is attached, and wherein the detachable element is grabbed by portions of the second extendable member.

19. (New) The method of Claim 17, wherein the second extendable member is retracted in a proximal direction; and the detachable element is released from the first extendable member.

20. (New) A method of occluding a uterine artery of a female patient which includes

- a. providing a uterine artery occlusion device which has an elongated cannula with proximal and distal ends, a first extended member having a first distal end, a second extended member having a second distal end, a blood flow sensor at the distal end of the cannula to facilitate location of the patient's uterine artery and the monitoring of blood flow therethrough;
- b. introducing the occlusion device with the patient's vaginal canal and advancing the device therein until the distal end of the cannula is adjacent to the patient's vaginal fornix;
- c. locating the patient's uterine artery by the blood flow sensor;
- d. pressing the first extended member onto a first location of the patient's vaginal fornix to invaginate the wall thereof at the first location on a first side of the located uterine artery with the first distal end distal to the located artery; and

- e. pressing the second extended member onto a second location of the patient's vaginal fornix to invaginate the wall thereof at the second location on a second side of the located uterine artery with the second distal end distal to the located uterine artery;
- f. interpenetrating a length of ligation material through the invaginated walls of the patient's vaginal fornix at the first and second locations from the first and second distal ends of the first and second extended members distal to uterine artery to occlude the uterine artery.

21. (New) An intravaginal uterine artery occlusion device for a female patient, comprising:

- a. a cannula having a distal end that is configured for advancement through a vaginal canal of the female patient and that is configured for positioning the distal end thereof adjacent the patient's vaginal fornix;
- b. a blood flow sensor on the distal end configured to detect the uterine artery to be occluded;
- c. a first elongated member extending distal to the distal end of the cannula which is configured to invaginate tissue on a first side of the uterine artery which has a distal end extending distal to the uterine artery;
- d. a second elongated member extending distal to the distal end of the cannula which is configured to invaginate tissue on a second

side of the uterine artery and which has a distal end extending distal to the uterine artery; and

- e. a penetrating member configured for advancing a length of ligation material between the distal ends of the first and second elongated members opposite the cannula distal end.

22. (New) The occlusion device of Claim 21, wherein the first elongated member has a detachable element attached to the ligation material, and wherein the second elongated member has a snare configured to grab the detachable element.

23. (New) The occlusion device of Claim 22, wherein the second elongated member is configured to be retracted in a proximal direction, and a release mechanism configured for releasing the detachable element from the first elongated member.

24. (New) The occlusion device of Claim 23, wherein the first elongated member includes a tissue penetrating element attached to the ligation material.

25. (New) The occlusion device of Claim 24, wherein the tissue penetrating element is part of the detachable element secured to the ligation material, and is configured to be captured by the snare of the second elongated member.

26. (New) An intravaginal uterine artery occlusion device for a female patient, comprising:

- a. a cannula having a distal end that is configured for advancement through a vaginal canal of the female patient and that is configured for positioning the distal end thereof adjacent the patient's vaginal fornix;

- b. a blood flow sensing means on the distal end configured to detect the uterine artery to be occluded;
- c. a first elongated means extending distal to the distal end of the cannula which is configured to invaginate tissue on a first side of the uterine artery which has a distal end extending distal to the uterine artery;
- d. a second elongated means extending distal to the distal end of the cannula which is configured to invaginate tissue on a second side of the uterine artery and which has a distal end extending distal to the uterine artery; and
- e. a penetrating means configured for advancing a length of ligation material between the distal ends of the first and second elongated members opposite the cannula distal end.

27. (New) A method of occluding a uterine artery of a female patient which

includes the steps of:

- a. providing a uterine artery occlusion device which has an elongated cannula with proximal and distal ends, a first extended member having a first distal end, a second extended member having a second distal end, a blood flow sensor at the distal end of the cannula to facilitate location of the patient's uterine artery and the monitoring of blood flow therethrough;

- b. introducing the occlusion device with the patient's vaginal canal and advancing the device therein until the distal end of the cannula is adjacent to the patient's vaginal fornix;
- c. locating the patient's uterine artery by the blood flow sensor;
- d. pressing the first extended member onto a first location of the patient's vaginal fornix to invaginate the wall thereof at the first location on a first side of the located uterine artery with the first distal end distal to the located artery; and
- e. pressing the second extended member onto a second location of the patient's vaginal fornix to invaginate the wall thereof at the second location on a second side of the located uterine artery with the second distal end distal to the located uterine artery;
- f. interpenetrating a length of ligation material through the invaginated walls of the patient's vaginal fornix at the first and second locations from the first and second distal ends of the first and second extended members distal to uterine artery to occlude the uterine artery.